

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

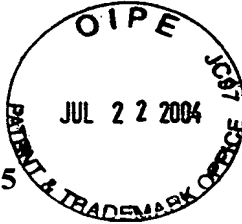
AIZAWA et al.

Application Number: 10/782,925

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: **DISK ARRAY SYSTEM AND A METHOD OF
AVOIDING FAILURE OF THE DISK ARRAY
SYSTEM**

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. HITA.0522



Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

LETTER

Sir:

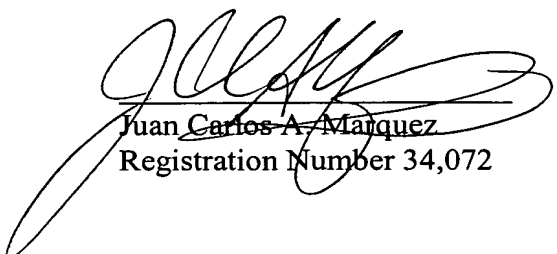
The below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (X) | Priority Documents (1) | |
| (X) | Request for Priority | () Assignment Document |
| () | Response to Missing Parts | () Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a) |
| | w/ signed Declaration | () Check for \$130.00 |

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
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(703) 641-4200
July 22, 2004

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**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of November 26, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2003-395322.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2003-395322 is being submitted herewith. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
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Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
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July 22, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juan Carlos A. Marquez", written over a horizontal line.